



## U.S. ARMY CHEMICAL MATERIALS AGENCY

### Joint Information Center

#### Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program

##### Emergency Information

When an emergency happens, you want and need reliable information. You want to hear from the people who know what's going on and understand what's important to you. You want to know what you can do to stay safe.

An emergency can be a confusing and stressful time. Officials from local, county, state, federal and volunteer agencies work together during emergencies. But different people know about different parts of the emergency response. That means information may come from lots of people—including the news media you normally turn to for information.

##### Joint Information Center

To make sure you get accurate information if an accident happens at your Army post, the responding government agencies may set up a Joint Information Center (JIC). The JIC is designed to help emergency responders get accurate, complete, timely, understandable and appropriate information to you, to your neighbors and to the news media throughout the emergency.

Trained specialists, such as public affairs and public information officers and support staff from responding government and private organizations come together to work from the same location, a JIC. The JIC team works with radio, television and print journalists to let you know what's being done to end the crisis, what you can do to protect yourself and how to get help if you need it.

##### How do you get information from the JIC?

News conferences, often carried live over television and radio, may take place at the JIC so that you can hear from the people in charge of the emergency response. The JIC team provides information to the news media in person, by phone and through news releases so that the media can give you accurate and informed updates on the situation. The JIC staff arranges for members of the news media to talk to technical experts and decision makers who know about specific aspects of the emergency. The JIC staff also may put information on the Internet so that you can get information directly. A phone number at the JIC may be provided for you to call if media coverage does not address your questions and concerns.

Learn which radio and TV stations in your area are your Emergency Alert System (EAS) stations. These stations will broadcast emergency instructions that may be vital to keeping you and your family safe in an emergency. If you don't know your EAS stations, call your local emergency management agency or Chemical Demilitarization Community Outreach Office **now** to find out.

For more information,  
contact the CMA Public  
Affairs Office at  
(410) 436-3629  
(800) 488-0648